

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for generating computer executable code, comprising:
- 5 creating a data set by modifying the comments portion of a program; and
- inserting the data set into an applications program to form the computer executable code.
- 10 2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said creating comprises displaying the link within a line of text preceded by a comments designator.
3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said creating comprises displaying a window containing the comments portion and the data set.
- 15 4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said modifying comprises directing an on-screen pointer to the link and actuating a pointer device that is communicable with the on-screen pointer.
- 20 5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said modifying comprises:
- initiating a pull-down menu;
- directing a pointer to items shown on the pull-down menu; and
- 25 actuating a pointer device electrically coupled to the on-screen pointer.
6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said creating comprises setting byte fields within the data set for defining an electrical waveform.
- 30

7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said creating comprises setting waveform descriptor commands of a programmable interface circuit.

8. A computer program, comprising:

a first text preceded by a comments designator and succeeded by at least one link word that is adapted for modification by an on-screen pointer; and

a second text displayed on a display device along with the first text for presenting a data set that changes dependent on modification to the link word by the on-screen pointer or by modification of the data set.

9. The computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the link word and the data set reside within a single window for display upon the display device, and wherein the single window is accessible by a pointer device linked to the on-screen pointer via a graphical user interface.

10. The computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the link word and the data set reside within two separate windows for display upon the display device, and wherein the two separate windows are accessible by a pointer device linked to the on-screen pointer via a graphical user interface.

11. The computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the two separate windows are adapted for concurrent display upon the display device.

12. The computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the data set is linked to an applications program to form computer executable code.

13. The computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the data set comprises several grouping of fields that define a waveform output for a programmable device.

14. The computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the data set comprises several grouping of fields that define address, data, control and timing signals sent from a programmable interface to a peripheral device.

5 15. An apparatus for generating programmable signals, comprising:

a compiler for generating a data set containing at least one field of bits in response
to user-activation of a link within a comments portion of a program; and
10 hardware for generating programmable signals in response to the field of bits.

16. The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the link is accessible by a user via a graphical user-interface.

15 17. The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the data set is linked to an applications program to form computer executable code operable upon the hardware for generating the signals.

20 18. The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the data set and the comments portion of the program are depicted upon a screen of a display device.

19. The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the link comprises at least one word located one the same line as text that follow a comments designator.

25 20. The apparatus as recited in claim 19, wherein the comments designator notes the corresponding line of text as non-executable words separate and distinct from lines of program commands.